

AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

In The Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

On page one, after the title, please insert the following paragraph:

A1
--This application is a Continuation-in-Part (CIP) of and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC §120 of international application no. PCT/JP00/03370, filed on May 25, 2000, which claims the benefit of priority of Japanese patent application serial no. 2000-121767, filed March 18, 2000 and Japanese patent application serial no. 1999-149718, filed May 28, 1999. The aforementioned applications are explicitly incorporated herein by reference in their entirety and for all purposes.--